(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YEDAV): (a) and (b) A Boeing aircraft of Alliance Air met with an accident at Patna Airport on 17.7.2000 resulting in shortage of one aircraft. The schedule of Alliance Air have, thus, been revised. Accordingly, the flight on the sector Delhi-Jaipur-Jodhpur and return to be operated on 22.7.2000 got cancelled on 21.7.2000.

Due to technical failure, one more aircraft was grounded on 21.7.2000, which resulted in cancellation of flights, both incoming and outgoing, on three other sectors on 22.7.2000.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Contract Employees in Alliance Airlines

3112. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to examine the service conditions of the Pilots, crews and Ground staff of Alliance Airlines which are employed on contract basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when?

(c) whether the aircrafts in the Alliance Airlines are very old and need repair/upgradation to minimise life risk of passengers and to survive in competitive market; and

(d) if so, the steps taken so far to replace the old aircrafts and to make the said Airlines more profitable?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHIR SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Presently no such proposal is under consideration in Alliance Air.

(c) and (d) The average age of B-737-200 aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air is 18.9 years. These aircraft are maintained in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the manufacturers and approved by the Director General of Civil Aviation. Only such aircraft as are certified airworthy by the Director

General of Civil Aviation are pressed into operation. A Techno Economic evaluation study, to replace the ageing fleet of B-737 and A-300 aircraft as also to augment fleet capacity of Indian Airlines, is currently underway.

Formation of Air Safety Board

3113. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase in the rate of minor and major air accidents of Alliance Air duirng the last three years;

(b) if so, what are the complete details of accidents so far and the cause of each accident;

(c) whether Government propose to set up Air Safety Board, an independent body in the near future; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Only one accident has occurred to Alliance Air Boeing 737 aircraft near Patna Airport on 17.7.2000 which is under investigation by a Court of Inquiry set up by the Govenrment under Rule 75 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Depiction of Women in Publications of AI

3114. DR. (SHRIMATI) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India is depicting Indian, in particular the Indian women, in undignified manner in the literature circulated to passengers on its international flights;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken so far to stop such type of publication; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?